

Expatriate City Ranking 2022 - City Focus

The Expat City Ranking has been a part of the Expat Insider survey by InterNations since 2017. In 2022, a total of 11,970 expatriates took part, representing 177 nationalities and living in 181 countries or territories across the world. Thanks to their insights, the Expat City Ranking 2022 offers an overview of the 50 best- and worst-rated cities for expatriates worldwide. The following City Focus explores some of the results in greater detail in several areas, from the quality of life to personal finance, from working abroad to the ease of settling in a foreign city.

AUSTRALIA

Australian Cities Offer Expatriates A Great Working Life, But They Are Expensive

Melbourne: An Easy City To Get Used To

Melbourne ranks 8th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022, performing best in the Working Abroad Index (4th). Expatriates are happy with their working hours (73% happy vs. 63% globally) and work-life balance (72% vs. 62% globally). Another 68% rate their career opportunities positively (vs. 58% globally), while 61% view the job market favorably (vs. 47% globally). Moreover, seven in ten (70%) agree they are paid fairly (vs. 62% globally). It is hardly surprising then that 77% report overall job satisfaction (vs. 64% globally).

In the Expat Essentials Index (16th), Melbourne's results are not quite as stellar, but still really good. Expatriates do agree it is easy to open a local bank account (81% happy vs. 64% globally) and to deal with the local authorities (53% vs. 40% globally). However, getting a visa to move there is something 49% struggled with (vs. 24% globally). Housing is another hot issue: 30% consider it difficult to find (vs. 27% globally), while 59% say it is hard to afford (vs. 43% globally).

Expatriates feel welcome in Melbourne (67% vs. 66% globally). They find it slightly easier to make local friends than in other destinations (46% vs. 42% globally), and they consider the local residents generally friendly (72% vs. 66% globally). Moreover, 74% find it

easy to get used to the local culture (vs. 62% globally). The city ranks in a decent 17th place in the Ease of Settling In Index.

Sydney: A City Full Of Opportunities

In the Expat City Ranking 2022, Sydney places 13th. Like Melbourne, it does best in the Working Abroad Index (12th). Here, too, expatriates appreciate their working hours (75% vs. 63% globally), the job market (71% vs. 47% globally), and fair pay (68% vs. 62% globally). They also agree that the business culture supports flexibility (78% vs. 60% globally), independent work (62% vs. 45% globally), and creativity (61% vs. 51% globally).

Sydney ranks 14th in the Ease of Settling In Index. Expatriates not only find it easy to get used to the local culture (78% vs. 62% globally). They also describe the local population as generally friendly (71% happy vs. 66% globally) and friendly towards foreign residents (70% vs. 65% globally). About two in three expatriates (65%) have a personal support network in Sydney (vs. 59% globally).

In the Expat Essentials Index (17th), Sydney ranks first for the ease of opening a local bank account. Similar to Melbourne, expatriates find it easy to deal with the local bureaucracy (67% happy vs. 40% globally), but it was hard to get a visa to relocate there (42% unhappy vs. 24% globally). They also like the availability of government services online (74% vs. 61% globally). However, the housing market seems even worse than in Melbourne: 77% consider housing in Sydney unaffordable (vs. 59% in Melbourne and 43% globally). More generally speaking, the Personal Finance Index (30th) is Sydney's weakest point. Nearly three in five expatriates (59%) think that the local cost of living is too high (vs. 35% globally).

AUSTRIA

Expatriates Love The Quality And Affordability Of Life In Vienna But Rank It Worst For Settling In

In the Expat City Ranking 2022, Vienna lands in an average 27th place out of 50. On the plus side, it ranks in the top 10 of the Quality of Life Index (7th), mainly due to Travel & Transit (1st) and Health & Well-Being (2nd). Expatriates in Vienna describe public transportation as easily available (97% happy vs. 73% globally) and affordable (90% vs. 70% globally). Both the availability (3rd) and the affordability (4th) of healthcare, as well as its quality (9th), receive great results too. Vienna also offers the respondents a pleasant urban environment

(86% happy vs. 67% globally) and various "green" goods and services (83% vs. 64% globally).

However, the Ease of Settling In Index (50th) is a major drawback. Here, Vienna is the worst-rated city worldwide, also coming in last place for Local Friendliness (50th). Expatriates describe the local residents as unfriendly in general (43% unhappy vs. 17% globally) and towards foreign residents in particular (46% vs. 18% globally). Moreover, 54% have a hard time making local friends (vs. 37% globally). Another 32% do not feel welcome in Vienna (vs. 16% globally) - the city ranks last for this factor as well.

When it comes to Expat Essentials (28th), housing in Vienna is considered easy to afford (9th). Moreover, 79% of expatriates find it easy to open a local bank account in Vienna (vs. 64% globally). But it was not that simple to get a visa to move there (38th), and the city lags behind for cashless payment options (42nd).

CANADA

Expatriates Enjoy The High Quality Of Life In Toronto And Vancouver But Struggle To Afford It

Toronto: A Great Place to Work And Easy To Deal With Admin Topics

Toronto ranks 19th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and makes it into the top 10 of the Expat Essentials Index (7th). Expatriates find it very easy to navigate Admin Topics (5th), such as dealing with the local bureaucracy (70% happy vs. 40% globally) and opening a local bank account (91% vs. 64% globally). While the Digital Life Subcategory (6th) is also rated highly, Toronto only comes 37th in the Housing Subcategory. This is mainly due to expenses: more than three-quarters of expatriates (76%) find housing unaffordable, compared to 43% worldwide.

High costs are also reflected in the Personal Finance Index, where Toronto ranks among the bottom 5 (46th).

The Working Abroad Index (13th), on the other hand, is another highlight of expat life in Toronto. Expatriates are particularly satisfied with their job security (66% happy vs. 59% globally), the local job market (64% vs. 47% globally), and their personal career opportunities (61% vs. 58% globally). The city also ranks tenth in the Work Culture & Satisfaction Subcategory, since the majority of expatriates agrees that the local business culture promotes independent work (74% happy vs. 45% globally) and supports flexibility (83% vs. 60% globally).

Lastly, Toronto performs well in both the Ease of Settling In (20th) and Quality of Life (21st) Indices.

Vancouver: Where Housing Is Unaffordable And The Local Residents Are Not So Friendly

Ranking 43rd out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking, Vancouver is rated considerably worse than Toronto (19th) and even places last in the world in the Personal Finance Index (50th). Expatriates are extremely dissatisfied with the general cost of living (69% unhappy vs. 35% globally) and their financial situation (43% vs. 21% globally). Half (50%) even say that their disposable household income is not enough to lead a comfortable life (vs. 28% globally). In fact, the affordability of housing (49th) is also the worst-rated factor in the Expat Essentials Index. However, thanks to Vancouver's excellent performance in the Admin Topics (6th), Digital Life (11th), and Language (12th) Subcategories, it still comes in a good 21st place in this index.

Vancouver receives below-average results in the Ease of Settling In Index (35th): close to three in ten expatriates (29%) describe the local residents as unfriendly, compared to 17% globally. Maybe this is why 39% are unhappy with their social life (vs. 26% globally), and 32% do not have a personal support network (vs. 24% globally). Vancouver even ranks last worldwide for the latter factor. "It can be hard to enter a social circle which is already established," shares an expat from New Zealand. On a more positive note, the Environment & Climate Subcategory (5th) in the Quality of Life Index (23rd) is a real highlight: 100% of expatriates appreciate the natural environment (vs. 83% globally). They also enjoy the air quality (87% vs. 65% globally) and the availability of green goods and services (89% vs. 64% globally) in Vancouver.

FRANCE

Expatriates In Paris Fight With Daily Hurdles But Enjoy The Cultural Life

Paris ranks among the bottom 3 of the Expat City Ranking 2022 (48th). Expatriates struggle in many areas of life: housing, finding friends, and the general cost of living.

Paris places 48th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and lands in the bottom 5 of the Expat Essentials Index (47th). Expatriates find it extremely hard to find housing (47th). More than seven in ten (71%) also say that housing costs are too high (vs. 43% globally). Language is another obstacle: when it comes to trying to get by without speaking the local language, expatriates rank Paris last (50th). Admin topics, even simple ones like opening a bank account (41% find it hard vs. 21% globally), cause further problems, with Paris ranking 46th in this subcategory. High expenses in France's capital can also be felt in the Personal Finance Index, where Paris ends up in the bottom 3 (48th). The general cost of living is considered

too high by 62% of expatriates (vs. 35% globally), which might be why 35% are unhappy with their financial situation (vs. 21% globally).

On the positive side, Paris ranks midfield for Quality of Life (30th). Nine out of ten (90%) enjoy their travel opportunities (vs. 82% globally), and 83% appreciate the availability of public transportation in Paris (vs. 73% globally). More than three-quarters (76%) find healthcare affordable (vs. 61% globally), and very few (7%) have anything negative to say about the quality of medical care (vs. 14% globally). A large majority of expatriates (86%) enjoy the food and dining options (vs. 77% globally), and 78% appreciate the culture and nightlife (vs. 67% globally). However, expatriates worry about their personal safety (46th). More than one in five (23%) do not feel safe in Paris, more than twice the worldwide average (9%).

Paris also receives mixed reviews in the Working Abroad Index (34th). Nearly two-thirds (66%) are satisfied with their job security (vs. 59% globally), but only slightly more than half (53%) feel that they are being fairly paid based on industry, qualifications, and role (vs. 62% globally). In terms of overall job satisfaction, Paris ranks 43rd. More than one in three (35%) say that the local business culture does not encourage creativity or thinking outside of the box (vs. 26% globally).

GERMANY

German Cities Offer Highs And Lows For Expatriates But Overall, They Are Average At Best

Mixed results for Germany: out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022, Berlin ranks 31st, followed by Dusseldorf (33rd), Munich (38th), Hamburg (45th), and Frankfurt (49th).

Berlin: Cheap, Great For Work And High Quality Of Life

Berlin is the only German city to make it into the top 10 of the Personal Finance Index (7th). Expatriates find life in Germany's capital affordable. Only 17% rate the general cost of living negatively, less than half the global average (35%).

Expatriates also enjoy a high Quality of Life (13th), with Berlin doing second best among the German cities after Munich (10th). Expatriates love the Leisure Options (10th), especially the culture and nightlife (92% happy vs. 67% globally). More than nine in ten (91%) also appreciate the political stability (vs. 64% globally).

On the downside, Berlin receives a below-average ranking in the Ease of Settling In Index (38th), even though it is the only German city that does not land in the bottom 10 worldwide. Nonetheless, only 55% feel at home in Germany's capital (vs. 62% globally), and 31% find the local residents unfriendly (vs. 17% globally). When it comes to the Expat Essentials Index (44th), the situation is even worse. Expatriates in Berlin struggle with Germany's lack of digitalisation, as 32% find it hard to get high-speed internet

access at home (vs. 11% globally), and 35% struggle to pay without cash (vs. 8% globally). What is more, close to three in five expatriates describe housing in Berlin as unaffordable (59% unhappy vs. 43% globally) and hard to find in the first place (58% vs. 27% globally).

Dusseldorf: Where Expatriates In Germany Are Happiest But Still Feel Unwelcome

Ranking 33rd out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking and 2nd among the German cities featured in the survey, Dusseldorf is the place where expatriates in Germany feel happiest overall (22nd). They are particularly pleased with their working life, ranking Dusseldorf tenth in the Working Abroad Index. The city comes in eighth for personal career opportunities (69% happy vs. 58% globally), the best result among the five German expat hubs in the ranking. What is more, 80% consider their jobs to be secure (vs. 64% globally), and 70% are satisfied with their jobs in general (vs. 64% globally).

However, 25% of expatriates do not feel welcome in Dusseldorf (vs. 16% globally), and 42% find it difficult to get used to the local culture (vs. 19% globally). This places the city among the bottom 10 in the Ease of Settling In Index (45th), and it even comes last in the Culture & Welcome Subcategory (50th).

Although it performs best out of the German cities in the ranking, Dusseldorf is still among the bottom 10 in the Expat Essentials Index (42nd). Expatriates struggle the most with Language and Digital Life (43rd for both). For example, they find it hard to pay without cash (27% unhappy vs. 8% globally), and 34% are not satisfied with the availability of administrative/government services online (vs. 21% globally). Another 55% find it difficult to deal with local bureaucracy (vs. 39% globally).

Munich: Among The Top 10 Worldwide For Work And Quality Of Life

Munich ranks 38th out of 50 cities in the ranking and 5th in the Working Abroad Index. In the latter, it performs best among the five German cities featured in the survey. Munich ranks first for job security (81% happy vs. 59% globally) and third for its local job market (76% vs. 47% globally). Out of all the German cities, Munich offers the best career prospects (6th): close to three-quarters (73%) say moving to Munich has improved their careers (vs. 60% globally), and 95% rate the state of the local economy positively (vs. 64% globally). One in four expatriates in Munich (25%) earns 75,000–100,000 USD per year (vs. 11% globally), and 66% feel paid fairly for their work (vs. 62% globally). Munich also does best among the five German cities in the Work & Leisure Subcategory (5th): expatriates work 40.7 hours full time per week, over two hours fewer than the global average (43.3 hours).

Munich also has the best result in Germany for its Quality of Life (10th). Munich is also

Germany's best-rated city in the Safety & Security Subcategory (6th). More than nine in ten appreciate both the political stability (91% happy vs. 64% globally) and their personal safety (96% vs. 81% globally). They also find it easy and safe to get around Munich by foot and/or bike (95% happy vs. 77% globally), and 92% rate the infrastructure for cars positively (vs. 75% globally).

The only real lowlight in the Quality of Life Index is the affordability of public transportation (44th). In fact, Munich comes in 41st place for the general cost of living, a significantly worse result than in the other German cities (Frankfurt 35th, Hamburg 26th, Dusseldorf 23rd, Berlin 8th). Still, 51% of expatriates in Munich find their disposable household income is more than enough to lead a comfortable life (vs. 45% globally), which might have to do with their above-average incomes. In the end, Munich lands in an average 33rd place for Personal Finance.

Munich ranks worst out of all German cities in the Local Friendliness Subcategory (47th). Expatriates find the people in Munich unfriendly in general (30% unhappy vs. 17% globally) and unfriendly towards foreign residents in particular (25% vs. 18% globally). All this is reflected in the city's 44th place in the Ease of Settling In Index.

Hamburg: Where Expatriates Are Unhappiest And Have the Hardest Time Making Friends

Hamburg ranks 45th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and 47th for overall happiness, making it the city where expatriates are least satisfied with their life in Germany. More than one in four (26%) say they are unhappy with their life abroad, which is twice the global average (13%).

This might be due to the lack of a social life: Hamburg holds the next-to-last spot in the Ease of Settling In Index (49th), which is the worst result among all German cities. Only expatriates in Vienna (50th) find it even harder to get settled. Hamburg places last worldwide in the Finding Friends Subcategory (50th). Only 19% find it easy to make local friends, compared to 42% globally.

Together with Munich (49th) and Frankfurt (50th), Hamburg (48th) also ends up in the bottom 3 of the Expat Essentials Index. After Tokyo (50th), it ranks second to last in the Language Subcategory (49th). Almost one in two (49%) say it is difficult to live in the North German metropolis without speaking the local language (vs. 32% globally). The Housing Subcategory (42nd) is another lowlight for expatriates, as 66% have a hard time finding accommodation in Hamburg (vs. 27% globally).

Hamburg ranks mid-field in the Working Abroad Index (25th). Expatriates in Hamburg highly appreciate their job security and the state of the local economy (10th for both). In terms of working hours (9th), Hamburg does even better (74% happy vs. 63% globally). However,

15% do not see a purpose in their work (vs. 9% globally), and 24% do not feel paid fairly (vs. 20% globally). The latter may also be reflected in the city's mediocre result in the Personal Finance Index (29th). Just about two-thirds (66%) say that their disposable household income is enough or more than enough to lead a comfortable life in Hamburg, compared to 72% globally.

Frankfurt: Where Expatriates Struggle Most With Digitalisation, Administration And Language

Frankfurt ranks 49th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022, only ahead of Johannesburg (50th). It even comes in last in the Expat Essentials Index (50th). All German cities perform poorly in this index, but Frankfurt is the only one to land among the bottom 10 in all four subcategories: Digital Life (47th), Language (46th), Admin Topics (45th), and Housing (43rd). Close to two in five are unhappy with the administrative services available online (39% vs. 21% globally) and the options to pay without cash (37% vs. 8% globally). What is more, housing in Frankfurt is considered too expensive (70% unhappy vs. 43% globally) and too hard to find for expatriates (61% vs. 27% globally). "The lack of clear instructions is insane when it comes to admin topics like taxes, TV license fees, or citizenship," says a French expat.

High costs seem to be a general issue in Frankfurt. Although 38% of expatriates work in a senior/specialist position (vs. 29% globally) and 23% earn 75,000–100,000 USD (vs. 11% globally), Frankfurt is the only German city that lands in the bottom 10 of the Personal Finance Index (41st). More than half (51%) find the general cost of living too high (vs. 35% globally).

Not surprisingly, overall job satisfaction in Frankfurt is low (48th): 23% rate it negatively (vs. 16% globally). Even worse, expatriates in Frankfurt are among the unhappiest in general (46th). Only 61% are happy with their life abroad (vs. 71% globally).

HONG KONG

Expatriates Struggle With Hong Kong's Demanding Working Life

Hong Kong ranks 46th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022. It is the city where expatriates are overall unhappiest with their life abroad: 32% are generally unhappy, compared to 13% globally. One reason for this could be the low Quality of Life, with Hong Kong ranking 46th in this index. Expatriates find it to be lacking when it comes to the Environment & Climate (47th). Over half (56%) are unhappy with the city's air quality, nearly three times the global average (19%). The city even ranks last worldwide (50th) when it comes to the availability of green goods and services, such as renewable energy, organic food, and sustainable products. Additionally, 42% of expatriates feel that the government does not support policies to protect the environment (vs. 18% globally). Expatriates also rank Hong Kong

last worldwide (50th) for its political stability, and only 28% feel that they can openly express themselves and their opinions, less than half the global average (64%).

On the positive side, not one respondent is unhappy with the availability of public transportation (vs. 17% globally), while 76% are very satisfied with this factor (vs. 43% globally). "There are excellent public transportation options," notes an expat from the United States. Expatriates also rank the city fifth for the affordability of public transportation (93% happy vs. 70% globally).

The city ranks midfield in the Ease of Settling In Index (25th). A particular highlight in this index: over two in three expatriates (68%) feel that they have a personal support network in Hong Kong (vs. 59% globally), which places the city fourth for this factor. Lastly, Hong Kong receives mixed results in the Expat Essentials Index (35th). While 60% of expatriates say that the local language is difficult to learn (vs. 38% globally), 86% of expatriates agree that it is easy to live in Hong Kong without speaking it (vs. 51% globally). While nearly two in three (66%) consider it easy for expatriates to find housing (vs. 54% globally), 89% find it unaffordable (vs. 43% globally). Affordability seems to be a general problem, as the city ranks 46th for general cost of living. Accordingly, Hong Kong only places 39th in the Personal Finance Index.

IRELAND

Dublin: A Great Place For Expatriates To Work, A Hard Place For Them To Live

Dublin ranks 37th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022, performing worst in the Quality of Life Index (47th). Expatriates vote the city last worldwide in the Health & Well-Being Subcategory (50th) and for three of the four related rating factors: they are unhappy with the availability of healthcare (38% vs. 13% globally), the ease of accessing all necessary healthcare services (40% vs. 17% unhappy), and the quality of medical care (42% vs. 14% globally).

Getting around is another major issue for expatriates in Dublin. The city ranks among the bottom 5 in the Travel & Transit Subcategory (46th). Expatriates struggle with the affordability (27% unhappy vs. 15% globally) and the availability (26% vs. 17% globally) of public transportation. About one in five (19%) feel that it is unsafe to get around by foot or by bicycle (vs. 13% globally), and 20% are unhappy with the infrastructure for cars (vs. 13% globally). Leisure options are also quite limited: expatriates rank the city 46th for the culinary variety and dining options, and 48th for the opportunities for recreational sports.

On the positive side, Dublin comes second globally in the Working Abroad Index, only beaten by Copenhagen (1st). It ranks among the top 10 in all subcategories. Expatriates are especially pleased with the Career Prospects

Subcategory (2nd): they rate the local job market (77% happy vs. 47% globally) and their personal career opportunities (72% vs. 58% globally) positively.

Dublin also excels in the Work & Leisure Subcategory (3rd). Expatriates are happy with their working hours (78% happy vs. 63% globally) and work-life balance (74% vs. 62% globally). Moreover, the local business culture encourages creativity (72% happy vs. 51% globally), promotes independent work (65% vs. 45% globally), and fosters flexibility (89% vs. 60% globally). Maybe this is why 74% of expatriates are satisfied with their job in general, compared to 64% globally.

ITALY

Expatriates In Rome And Milan Struggle With Their Career And Local Bureaucracy

Rome: Expatriates Feel At Home Despite Low Quality Of Life

Rome ranks 41st out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and lands in the bottom 10 of the Working Abroad Index (45th). It performs especially poorly in the Career Prospects Subcategory (46th). Expatriates there are unhappy with the local job market (38% unhappy vs. 27% globally), and 24% feel that moving there has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally). The city also performs poorly in the Work Culture & Satisfaction (43rd) and Salary & Job Security (45th) Subcategories. More than one-third (34%) are concerned about the state of the economy (vs. 17% globally): "Italy's biggest problem is the economy," shares an Iranian expat.

The city does not fare much better in the Expat Essentials Index (43rd). In fact, it ranks last worldwide in the Admin Topics Subcategory (50th). Expatriates feel that it is difficult to get a visa to move there (35% unhappy vs. 24% globally), to open a local bank account (46% vs. 21% globally), and to deal with local bureaucracy and the authorities (73% vs. 39% globally). This may be partly due to the lack of administrative and government services online (50% negative ratings vs. 21% globally), with Rome ranking last worldwide (50th) for this factor.

Rome also ends up among the bottom 10 in the Quality of Life Index (41st). Getting around is a major issue for expatriates. They are unhappy with the availability of public transportation (38% unhappy vs. 17% globally) and the infrastructure for cars (36% vs. 13% globally). They are also dissatisfied with both the quality (43rd) and the availability (48th) of healthcare, and 28% report that it is difficult to access all the kinds of healthcare services that they need (vs. 17% globally).

On the positive side, the city performs well in the Ease of Settling In Index (13th). Three in four expatriates (75%) feel at home in Rome (vs. 62% globally), and 69% have a personal support network there (vs. 59% globally).

Milan: Troubling Financial Situation, Difficult Working Life

Milan ranks 44th in the Expat City Ranking 2022, performing slightly worse than Rome (41st). Like Rome, Milan does worst in the Working Abroad Index (48th). The Work & Leisure Subcategory (47th) is a particular low point for Milan - the city ranks in the bottom 5 for both working hours (48th) and work-life balance (46th). Nearly one in three expatriates (31%) also struggle with the lack of personal career opportunities (vs. 22% globally), and 29% feel that they are not paid fairly for their work (vs. 20% globally).

Milan has both highs and lows to offer in the Quality of Life Index (33rd). While over half the respondents (54%) are unhappy with the city's air quality (vs. 19% globally), about three in four (73%) enjoy the climate and weather (vs. 62% globally). And while the infrastructure for cars (42nd) leaves much to be desired, expatriates appreciate their opportunities to travel (10th), due to the central location, tourism, or other reasons.

The Personal Finance Index (45th) is another low point for Milan, though. About one in three expatriates are unhappy with their financial situation (33% vs. 21% globally) and feel that their disposable household income is not enough to lead a comfortable life in Milan (34% vs. 28% globally). When it comes to the Expat Essentials Index (41st), the city does not fare much better. Dissatisfaction with the Admin Topics Subcategory seems to be a general problem in Italy, as Milan (48th) joins Rome (50th) in the bottom 3: nearly two-thirds (66%) find it hard to deal with the local bureaucracy, compared to 39% globally.

MALAYSIA

Expatriates Love The Low Cost Of Living In Kuala Lumpur But Have Trouble With Their Working Life

Ranking 22nd in the Expat City Ranking 2022 overall, Kuala Lumpur's worst performance is in the Quality of Life Index (48th). The city ends up in the bottom 10 of the Environment & Climate (44th) and Safety & Security (48th) Subcategories: 42% of expatriates feel that the government does not support policies to protect the environment, more than double the global average (18%). And more than two in five say that they cannot openly express themselves and their opinions (42% vs. 18% globally) and are unhappy with the political stability (41% vs. 15% globally). Expatriates are also disappointed with the infrastructure for cars (41st) and the availability of public transportation (43rd).

On the positive side, the city performs very well in the Expat Essentials Index (10th). This is largely due to its second place in the Housing Subcategory - only Bangkok (1st) performs better. Expatriates describe housing as easy to find (79% vs. 54% globally) and to afford (64% vs. 39% globally). Affordability seems to be a general trend, as the city ranks fourth in the Personal Finance Index. Over two in three expatriates (69%) are happy with the general

cost of living in Kuala Lumpur (vs. 45% globally), and 86% feel that their disposable household income is enough or more than enough to lead a comfortable life (vs. 72% globally).

However, expatriates encounter more difficulties when it comes to the Working Abroad Index (46th). In fact, Kuala Lumpur ranks among the bottom 10 for every subcategory in this index: Career Prospects (43rd), Salary & Job Security (42nd), Work & Leisure (45th), and Work Culture & Satisfaction (45th). For example, over one in four (27%) are unhappy with their work-life balance (vs. 19% globally). Additionally, expatriates report that the local business culture does not encourage creativity / thinking outside of the box (43% unhappy vs. 26% globally), independent work and/or flat hierarchies (43% vs. 28% globally), or flexibility (31% vs. 19% globally).

MEXICO

Friendly Locals And A Welcoming Culture Await Expatriates in Mexico City

Mexico City ranks 3rd out of 50 cities, excelling for factors such as local friendliness and feeling welcome.

Mexico City ranks first worldwide in the Ease of Settling In Index, as well as all subcategories in this index. Expatriates feel at home (82% vs. 62% globally) and welcome (89% vs. 66% globally) there, and 87% describe the local residents as generally friendly (vs. 66% globally).

Though the city has an average performance in the Working Abroad Index (24th) in general, the index still includes some highlights. Expatriates rank Mexico City eighth in the Career Prospects Subcategory - more than seven in ten expatriates are happy with both their personal career opportunities (71% vs. 58% globally) and their jobs overall (73% vs. 64% globally). Results are more mixed when it comes to the Expat Essentials Index (30th). Mexico City ranks very poorly for Admin Topics (44th), with 69% of expatriates finding it difficult to deal with the local bureaucracy (vs. 39% globally). On the other hand, housing is both easy to find (9th) and to afford (6th).

Despite its high overall ranking, Mexico City ends up in the bottom 10 of the Quality of Life Index (44th). Expatriates are especially disappointed with the Environment & Climate Subcategory (41st), even ranking the city last globally for both the government support for policies to protect the environment (50th) and its air quality (50th). The Safety & Security Subcategory (47th) is another area where expatriates struggle with life in Mexico City: 35% are unhappy with their personal safety, about four times the global average (9%). However, when it comes to culture & nightlife and the culinary variety & dining options, the city is back at the top (1st for both).

PORTUGAL

Expatriates In Lisbon Are Among The Happiest Worldwide, But Their Careers Are Not Advancing

Lisbon ranks 4th out of 50 cities. It is among the best cities for quality of life, ease of settling in,

and personal finance, but expatriates view their career prospects negatively.

Lisbon ranks 4th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and is one of the cities where expatriates are happiest with their life abroad (86% happy vs. 71% globally). Only expatriates in Valencia are even happier. It is also one of the best-rated cities in the Quality of Life Index (5th). Almost all expatriates (98%) are happy with the climate & weather (vs. 62% globally), ranking the city first in this regard. In fact, 17% moved to the Portuguese capital for a better quality of life (vs. 7% globally), and they are not disappointed. Expatriates also highly appreciate the culture & nightlife (87% happy vs. 67% globally) and the opportunities for recreational sports (94% vs. 81% globally). On top of that, more than nine out of ten feel safe in Lisbon (94% vs. 81% globally) and find it easy to get around on foot and by bicycle (93% vs. 77% globally).

Lisbon also ranks fifth in the Ease of Settling In Index, with particularly great results in the Local Friendliness (4th) and Culture & Welcome (2nd) Subcategories.

27% of expatriates in Lisbon feel that based on industry, qualifications, and role, they are not paid fairly for their work (vs. 20% globally). "Wages in general are very poor in Portugal," says an Irish expat. Since they also rate the state of the local economy negatively (25% vs. 17% globally), the city only ranks 44th in the Salary & Job Security Subcategory. What is more, 28% find that moving to Lisbon has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally). For this factor, the city ranks second to last worldwide, only ahead of Valencia (50th). However, thanks to the Work & Leisure Subcategory (9th), Lisbon still ranks 36th in the Working Abroad Index overall. More than seven in ten (72%) rate their work-life balance positively (vs. 62% globally).

QATAR

Expatriates In Doha Encounter Financial Troubles But Appreciate The Healthcare System

Doha ranks 24th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and is among the best destinations in the Expat Essentials Index (5th). Expatriates are especially happy with the availability of administrative/government services online (80% happy vs. 61% globally), ranking the city eighth for this factor. The Language Subcategory (9th) is another highlight: 80% of expatriates in Doha find it easy to live there without speaking the local language (vs. 51% globally). However, the city ranks in the bottom 10 for unrestricted access to online services (44th).

The city ranks midfield in both the Ease of Settling In (22nd) and the Working Abroad (29th) Indices. On the positive side, over three in four expatriates (77%) feel that moving to Doha has improved their career prospects (vs. 60% globally), and 90% are happy with the state of the economy (vs. 64% globally). On the negative side, the city comes in 42nd place for both working hours and work-life balance. In fact,

expatriates in Doha work an average of 46 hours per week, compared to 40.2 hours globally.

Moreover, expatriates do not feel that they are properly rewarded for their demanding working life: 28% find that they are not paid fairly for their work (vs. 20% globally). Financial frustrations are also present in the Personal Finance Index (36th). For more than one in three expatriates (34%), their disposable household income is not enough to lead a comfortable life (vs. 28% globally), which leads to a bottom 10 ranking for this factor (42nd).

Expatriates have very mixed opinions regarding the Quality of Life Index (25th). The Health & Well-Being Subcategory (3rd) is a major highlight for expatriates in Doha. They find healthcare to be both affordable (76% happy vs. 61% globally) and easily available (85% vs. 73% globally). The quality of medical care also does not disappoint, with Doha ranking sixth worldwide for this factor. "The general governance of healthcare" is an element of life in Doha that an expat from Kenya enjoys the most. While Doha places in the top 10 for personal safety (6th) and political stability (10th), 28% of expatriates do not feel that they can openly express themselves and their opinions (vs. 18% globally). They also struggle when it comes to the Environment & Climate Subcategory (41st). For example, the city ranks last worldwide for its natural environment (50th): 27% rate this factor negatively, compared to 8% globally.

SINGAPORE

Singapore Is Great For Expatriates' Careers, But The Work Culture Could Be Better

Singapore ranks 10th out of 50 cities: expatriates find it easy to navigate their life there, but working abroad has some room for improvement.

Singapore ranks 10th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and even 3rd in the Expat Essentials Index. The city-state comes first worldwide in the Language Subcategory. It also lands among the best-rated destinations for Digital Life (3rd) and Admin Topics (9th): expatriates are very happy with the ease of getting high-speed internet access at home (97% happy vs. 79% globally) and the ease of paying without cash (97% vs. 84% globally). They also rate the availability of government services online (91% vs. 61% globally) and the ease of dealing with the local bureaucracy (63% vs. 40% happy) positively. An expat from Indonesia mentions the "fast and organised online services for many administrative purposes" as one of her highlights of living in Singapore.

While 73% of expatriates describe it as easy to find housing in Singapore (vs. 54% globally), 71% find it unaffordable (vs. 43% globally). Additionally, 56% rate the general cost of living negatively, compared to 35% globally.

It might help with regard to finance that close to three-quarters (74%) feel paid fairly for their work, based on their industry, qualification, and role (vs. 62%

globally). Singapore ranks third worldwide for this factor, only beaten by Basel (1st) and Dublin (2nd). In fact, 78% say that moving to Singapore has improved their career (vs. 60% globally) - 46% even very much so (vs. 33% globally). However, Singapore only ranks 28th in the Working Abroad Index since the Work & Leisure (33rd) and Work Culture & Satisfaction (37th) Subcategories leave a lot to be desired.

Singapore shows a better performance in the Ease of Settling In (23rd) and the Quality of Life (20th) Indices. However, the latter features some ups and downs. While Singapore ranks among the best cities worldwide for both the affordability (3rd) and the availability (4th) of public transportation, as well as the infrastructure for cars (3rd), it is among the worst-rated ones for the opportunity to travel (46th). Similar trends can be found among the results in the Health & Well-Being (18th) and the Safety & Security (23rd) Subcategories.

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town Outperforms Johannesburg, But Expatriates In Both Are Unhappy With Their Jobs

Johannesburg is the world's worst city for expatriates (50th), while Cape Town ranks in a mediocre 32nd place out of 50 cities.

Cape Town: A Great Place To Make Friends But Not To Improve Your Career

Cape Town ranks 32nd out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and even makes it into the top 10 of the Ease of Settling In Index (9th). Expatriates describe the local residents as generally friendly (74% happy vs. 66% globally) and find it easy to make friends with them (50% vs. 42% globally). In fact, expatriates in Cape Town are happiest with their social life (1st): 64% rate this factor positively (vs. 56% globally), and 42% are even completely satisfied (vs. 23% globally).

The climate and weather (9th) and the natural environment (6th) are two more factors with ratings among the top 10. However, in the end, Cape Town only ranks 37th in the Quality of Life Index. This is mainly due to expatriates' dissatisfaction with Travel & Transit (48th) and Safety & Security (46th). They are unhappy with the availability of public transportation (47th), and 39% do not find it easy or safe to get around on foot and/or bicycle (vs. 13% globally). What is more, 38% are worried about their personal safety in general, which is more than four times the global average (9%).

In the Expat Essential Index (23rd), Cape Town ranks among the worst cities in the Admin Topics Subcategory (43rd) but among the best in the Housing Subcategory (8th). In fact, expatriates describe housing as both affordable (41% happy vs. 39% globally) and easy to find (72% vs. 54% globally).

Lastly, Cape Town ranks 44th in the Working Abroad Index, even landing in second-to-last place worldwide in both the Career Prospects

(49th) and the Salary & Job Security (49th) Subcategories. Close to half the expatriates (46%) are unhappy with the local job market (vs. 27% globally), and 20% say that moving to Cape Town has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally). Additionally, they worry about their job security (33% unhappy vs. 20% globally) and rate the state of the economy negatively (51% vs. 17% globally).

Johannesburg: The World's Worst Expat Destination

Johannesburg comes last (50th) in the Expat City Ranking 2022. It also ends up as the worst city worldwide in the Quality of Life Index (50th). Expatriates are extremely unhappy with the affordability (25% unhappy vs. 15% globally) and availability (39% vs. 17% globally) of public transportation. Close to three in five (59%) do not find it easy and safe to get around by foot and/or bicycle (vs. 13% globally) - 32% even describe it as extremely unsafe, eight times the global average (4%). The city ranks last worldwide for both this factor and personal safety in general: 62% do not feel safe in Johannesburg, compared to 9% globally.

Johannesburg ranks 49th in the Working Abroad Index, only ahead of Istanbul (50th). Expatriates rate the local job market (38% unhappy vs. 27% globally) and their personal career opportunities (29% vs. 22% globally) negatively, and about a quarter (24%) say that moving there has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally). Since expatriates in Johannesburg also tend to be dissatisfied with their job security (34% unhappy vs. 20% globally), the state of the economy (36% vs. 17% globally), and their work-life balance (23% vs. 19% globally), it is no surprise that 24% are unhappy with their job in general (vs. 16% globally).

Interestingly, while only a slightly above average share of expatriates feel they are not paid fairly for their job (22% vs. 20% globally), results in the Personal Finance Index (47th) look much worse. Expatriates are unsatisfied with their personal finances (41% unhappy vs. 21% globally), and 44% say that their disposable household income is not enough to lead a comfortable life (vs. 28% globally). In fact, Johannesburg ranks last worldwide (50th) for both factors.

At least housing is affordable, according to 46% of expatriates (vs. 39% globally), which is one reason why Johannesburg still lands in 36th place in the Expat Essentials Index. On the other hand, expatriates rate the availability of administrative/government services online negatively (41% unhappy vs. 21% globally), and 34% struggle to open a local bank account (vs. 21% globally).

SPAIN

**Spanish Cities Offer Expatriates A Great Quality Of Life, But Very Few Career Choices
Valencia: Liveable, Friendly And Affordable**

Valencia places 1st out of 50 in the Expat City

Ranking 2022, also ranking 1st in the Quality of Life Index. Expatriates love the infrastructure for Travel & Transit (3rd): 85% describe public transportation as affordable (vs. 70% globally). Valencia also offers great opportunities for recreational sports (92% happy vs. 75% globally), among other leisure activities.

However, Valencia receives slightly mixed results in the Expat Essentials Index (13th). It does very well in the Housing Subcategory (3rd), even ranking first for affordable housing. But the local bureaucracy is not that easy to deal with: 52% of expatriates rate this factor negatively (vs. 39% globally).

The Working Abroad Index (41st) is by far Valencia's weakest point. In fact, it places last for Career Prospects (50th): 50% of expatriates rate the local job market negatively (vs. 27% globally), and 30% judge their own career opportunities unfavourably (vs. 22% globally). Overall, just 56% are happy with their job in general, which is below the global average (64%). However, it should be noted that only 8% of respondents actually moved there for work-related reasons, compared to 36% globally. The most popular reasons for moving to Valencia are a better quality of life (23% vs. 7% globally) and the plan to retire abroad (23% vs. 3% globally).

Madrid: Great Leisure Activities And A Welcoming Culture

In the Expat City Ranking 2022, Madrid places 5th out of 50. It performs best in the Quality of Life Index (4th). Expatriates love the climate and weather (88% happy vs. 62% globally) and their travel opportunities (95% vs. 82% globally).

In the Ease of Settling In Index (7th), Madrid also shines, particularly in the Culture & Welcome Subcategory (4th). Expatriates find it easy to get used to the local culture (77% happy vs. 62% globally) and feel welcome (77% vs. 66% globally). Moreover, 71% have a personal support network in Madrid (vs. 59% globally). The city ranks tenth in the Personal Finance Index, which is mainly due to the cost of living (7th). However, only 74% say that their household income is enough or more than enough for a comfortable life, about the same as the global average (72%).

Madrid comes in 20th place in the Expat Essentials Index. It does really well for the affordability of housing (45% happy vs. 39% globally) and the access to high-speed internet (89% vs. 79% globally). But 29% of expatriates are unhappy with the availability of government services online (vs. 21% globally).

Like all the Spanish cities in this ranking, Madrid performs worst in the Working Abroad Index (38th). Among other things, expatriates disagree that the local business culture promotes flat hierarchies (36% unhappy vs. 28% globally) and are worried about their job security (27% vs. 20% globally). 22% find that moving to the city has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally).

Barcelona: Best Leisure Options Worldwide, Few Career Prospects

Among the Spanish destinations in the Expat City Ranking, Barcelona (14th) is the only one not featured in the global top 10.

Though Barcelona narrowly misses out on the top 10 in the Quality of Life Index (11th), it does best worldwide for Leisure Options (1st). Expatriates appreciate the city's culinary variety and dining options (97% happy vs. 77% globally), its culture and nightlife (93% vs. 67% globally), as well as the opportunities for recreational sports (91% vs. 75% globally).

However, in comparison with Valencia (9th) and Madrid (22nd), Barcelona performs worse in the Safety & Security Subcategory (32nd): 78% of expatriates do feel safe there, but that is slightly less than the global average of 81%.

Barcelona scores lower in the Ease of Settling In and Personal Finance Indices than Madrid and Valencia as well (19th in both). Nevertheless, 54% rate the cost of living positively (vs. 45% globally), and 78% find it easy to get used to the local culture (vs. 62% globally). In terms of Local Friendliness (22nd), 67% of expatriates describe the local population as generally friendly towards foreign residents, just about the same as the global average of 65%.

In the Expat Essentials Index, Barcelona comes in a slightly belowaverage 26th place. Local housing seems still affordable (21st), but less so than in Madrid (14th) and Valencia (1st). Again, the Working Abroad Index (37th) is the biggest issue for expatriates, though. For example, 30% of expatriates believe that moving to Barcelona has not improved their career prospects (vs. 18% globally), and 22% do not feel paid fairly for their work (vs. 20% globally). "It is impossible to earn a competitive salary here," a respondent from Panama complains.

SWITZERLAND

Basel Outperforms Lausanne, Zurich And Geneva As The Best City For Expatriates in Switzerland

Basel: Expatriates Are Satisfied With Their Finances, Jobs And The Quality of Life

Basel is the best rated out of the four Swiss cities featured in the Expat City Ranking (7th). It does best in the Personal Finance Index (8th), ranking second worldwide for both expatriates' satisfaction with their financial situation (80% happy vs. 60% globally) and them feeling that their disposable household income is enough to lead a comfortable life abroad (68% have more than enough vs. 45% globally). Basel also lands in a good 14th place in the Expat Essentials Index, which is mainly due to its strong performance in the Admin Topics (7th) and Digital Life (12th) Subcategories. Expatriates are particularly satisfied with the ease of opening a local bank account (76% happy vs. 64% globally), getting high-speed internet access at home (88% vs.

79% globally), and the unrestricted access to online services (94% vs. 82% globally).

In the Working Abroad Index (14th), Basel ranks first in the Salary & Job Security Subcategory, and 79% of expatriates feel paid fairly for their work (vs. 62% globally). More than four in five (81%) also agree that moving there has improved their career prospects, compared to 60% globally. In the end, Basel is the city with the highest level of overall job satisfaction (1st): 86% rate this factor positively (vs. 64% globally).

The Ease of Settling In Index (42nd) is the only real lowlight about life in Basel: 30% of expatriates describe the local residents as generally unfriendly (vs. 17% globally), and 27% find it hard to get used to the local culture (vs. 19% globally). Maybe this helps to explain why 58% also find it hard to make local friends (vs. 37% globally) - 24% even find it extremely hard (vs. 14% globally).

Lausanne: A High Quality Of Life But Hard To Make Friends

Lausanne performs best in the Quality of Life Index (9th), even ranking first worldwide in the Environment & Climate Subcategory. Expatriates appreciate the natural environment (1st) and the great air quality (2nd). They are also very happy with the availability of green goods and services (89% happy vs. 64% globally), and 83% agree that the government supports policies to protect the environment (vs. 61% globally). Expatriates also feel generally safe in Lausanne (94% happy vs. 81% globally) and find it easy and safe to get around the city by foot and/or bicycle (97% vs. 77% globally). The only real lowlights in this index are the culinary variety and dining options (48th) and the affordability of healthcare (47th).

Expatriates generally consider the local cost of living too high (45th): 72% rate this factor negatively, more than twice the global average (35%). Still, 67% are satisfied with their financial situation (vs. 60% globally), and the city lands in a mediocre 38th place in the Personal Finance Index. However, 75% do feel paid fairly for their work, compared to 62% globally. The city ranks 7th for this factor, 2nd for the state of the economy, and 22nd in the Working Abroad Index overall. In fact, expatriates are happy with their personal career opportunities (66% happy vs. 58% globally) in Lausanne and are satisfied with their job in general (73% vs. 64% globally).

While Lausanne has the best performance out of the Swiss cities featured in the Ease of Settling In Index, it is still only in a mediocre 27th place. Expatriates feel at home in Lausanne (72% happy vs. 62% globally) and have a personal support network there (64% vs. 59% globally), but 48% find it hard to make local friends (vs. 37% globally).

Zurich: Expensive But Expatriates Can Still Afford It

Zurich ranks third worldwide in the Quality of Life Index, only beaten by Valencia (1st) and

Copenhagen (2nd). Expatriates are very happy with the Travel & Transit (10th) Subcategory, but even more so with the Environment & Climate (4th). They appreciate the natural environment (99% happy vs. 83% globally), the air quality (93% vs. 65% globally), and the urban environment (81% vs. 67% globally). Additionally, they feel safe in Zurich (93% vs. 81% globally) and are happy with the availability (84% vs. 73% globally) and quality (86% vs. 72% globally) of medical care. More than four in five expatriates in Zurich (81%) say that they can access all the healthcare services they need (vs. 67% globally).

The city also performs quite well in the Working Abroad Index (20th), even ranking first worldwide for the state of the local economy: 94% of expatriates rate this factor positively, compared to 64% globally. They are also happy with the local job market (60% vs. 47% globally) and feel paid fairly for their work (69% happy vs. 62% globally). This might also explain the results in the Personal Finance Index (24th): while the general cost of living is considered too high (65% unhappy vs. 35% globally), 74% are still satisfied with their financial situation (vs. 60% globally).

When it comes to the Expat Essentials Index (24th), expatriates find it easy to pay without cash (97% happy vs. 84% globally) and to deal with the local bureaucracy/authorities (69% vs. 40% globally). However, housing is hard to find in Zurich (41% unhappy vs. 27% globally), and 63% describe it as unaffordable (vs. 43% globally).

Placing 43rd in the Ease of Settling In Index, Zurich is the worst-rated Swiss city. In fact, it is among the bottom 10 for all three subcategories: Local Friendliness (44th), Finding Friends (43rd), and Culture & Welcome (42nd).

Geneva: The Highest Cost Of Living Worldwide

Geneva performs worst out of the four Swiss cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022. It even ranks last worldwide for the local cost of living (50th): 80% consider it too high, compared to 35% globally - 31% even find it extremely high (vs. 8% globally). While 73% still say that their disposable household income is about enough or more than enough to lead a comfortable life, which is about the same as the global average (72%), the city still ends up in a low 43rd place in the Personal Finance Index. Since housing is not only hard to afford (73% unhappy vs. 43% globally) but also to find (63% vs. 27% globally), Geneva comes 47th out of 50 in the Housing Subcategory. Other than that, the Expat Essentials Index (34th) does not look too bad. Expatriates are, for example, happy with the access to high-speed internet at home (89% happy vs. 79% globally) and find it easy to deal with the local bureaucracy/authorities (54% vs. 40% globally).

Similar to the other Swiss cities, Geneva does well in the Working Abroad (23rd) and Quality of Life (17th) Indices. It even comes third worldwide in the Safety & Security Subcategory: expatriates are satisfied with

the political stability (89% happy vs. 64% globally) and feel that they can openly express themselves and their opinions (79% vs. 64% globally). They also appreciate the natural environment (96% happy vs. 83% globally), as well as the air quality (80% vs. 65% globally), and 86% believe that the government supports policies to protect the environment (vs. 61% globally). On the downside, Geneva ranks 44th in the Leisure Options Subcategory. While 84% rate the opportunities for recreational sports positively (vs. 75% globally), they are dissatisfied with the culinary variety and dining options (17% unhappy vs. 12% globally), as well as the city's culture and nightlife (28% vs. 16% globally).

THAILAND

Bangkok Offers Expatriates A Friendly Atmosphere And A Low Cost of Living

Bangkok ranks 6th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and 2nd worldwide in the Personal Finance Index. Expatriates are not only happy with the general cost of living (69% vs. 45% globally), but affordability is also a highlight in the Expat Essentials Index (22nd). Housing is both affordable (70% happy vs. 39% globally) and easy to find (85% vs. 54% globally), with Bangkok landing in first place in the Housing Subcategory. On the other hand, expatriates rank the city 42nd in both the Digital Life and the Admin Topics Subcategories.

The Working Abroad Index (39th) is another lowlight, where Bangkok lands among the bottom 10 in the Salary & Job Security (41st), Career Prospects (41st), and Work Culture & Satisfaction (46th) Subcategories. Over one in three expatriates (35%) are unhappy with the local job market (vs. 27% globally), and 46% feel that the local business culture does not promote flat hierarchies or independent work (vs. 28% globally). Luckily, respondents seem to have an easier time in their private life. They describe the local residents as generally friendly (88% vs. 66% globally) and are happy with their social life (73% vs. 56% globally). When asked what he likes most about life in Bangkok, a British expat cites the "Thais' culture, friendliness, and attitude to living". It may not be a surprise then that 78% feel at home in Bangkok (vs. 62% globally) and the city ranks fourth in the Ease of Settling In Index.

Lastly, Bangkok comes 39th in the Quality of Life Index, ranking among the worst destinations worldwide for Safety & Security (45th) and Environment & Climate (48th). Expatriates are unhappy with the air quality (67% vs. 19% globally), as well as the urban environment (38% vs. 17% globally), and 43% agree that the government does not support environmentally friendly policies (vs. 18% globally). Regarding their safety, 36% of expatriates are unhappy with the political stability (vs. 15% globally), and 43% feel that they cannot openly express themselves and their opinions (vs. 18% globally).

UAE

No Bureaucratic Troubles For Expatriates In Dubai And Abu Dhabi

Dubai: Great For Both Work And Leisure

Dubai ranks 2nd out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022, even coming first worldwide in the Expat Essentials Index. The Admin Topics Subcategory (1st) is a particular highlight, since almost two in three expatriates (66%) report that it is easy to deal with the local bureaucracy/authorities, compared to only 40% globally. This could be due in part to the fact that most expatriates (88%) are happy with the availability of administrative/government services online (vs. 61% globally). Nearly one in five expatriates (18%) are unhappy with the access they have to online services (such as social media), more than double the global average (7%). In fact, both Dubai and Abu Dhabi rank in the bottom 5 for this factor (46th and 48th, respectively).

The Ease of Settling In Index (8th) is another highlight for Dubai, and the city lands among the top 10 in all three subcategories of the index. Expatriates are happy with their social life (68% happy vs. 56% globally) and feel welcome there (81% vs. 66% globally).

Aside from the great leisure opportunities, expatriates are also pleased with their working life, with Dubai coming sixth in the Working Abroad Index. It ranks fifth in the Work Culture & Satisfaction Subcategory, since 70% of expatriates are happy with their jobs (vs. 64% globally) and 78% report that the local business culture encourages creativity (vs. 51% globally). More than four in five (82%) also feel that moving to Dubai has improved their career prospects (vs. 60% globally). Despite their overall job satisfaction, their income may not be sufficient: over one in three expatriates (34%) say that their disposable household income is not enough to lead a comfortable life there (vs. 28% globally). This is one of the factors that lead to Dubai's mediocre performance in the Personal Finance Index (28th).

Abu Dhabi: Excellent Healthcare And Worry-Free Bureaucracy

Abu Dhabi ranks 9th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022. The capital city performs best in the Expat Essentials Index (2nd), placing just behind Dubai. Like in Dubai, expatriates are especially happy with the Admin Topics Subcategory (4th): expatriates find it easy to open a local bank account (74% happy vs. 64% globally) and deal with local bureaucracy (53% vs. 40% globally). What is more, 72% say that it is easy for expatriates to find housing (vs. 54% globally).

However, while Dubai (6th) excels in the Working Abroad Index, Abu Dhabi only ranks midfield (27th). While three in four expatriates in Abu Dhabi (75%) feel that moving there has improved their career prospects (vs. 60% globally), 31% feel paid unfairly for their work (vs. 20% globally). Perhaps it could also be connected to the perceived low pay that the

city places in the bottom 10 for expatriates' satisfaction with their financial situation (43rd), leading to a below-average ranking in the Personal Finance Index (34th).

UNITED KINGDOM

London Offers Expatriates Great Career Opportunities, But the Costs Are Too High

Coming 40th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022, London narrowly escapes the bottom 10. On the plus side, it ranks 17th in the Working Abroad Index and is even among the top 3 for Career Prospects (3rd): 73% of expatriates in London rate their career opportunities positively (vs. 58% globally), while 78% have improved their career prospects by moving there (vs. 60% globally). "Here, I have better opportunities to achieve my goals," says a Kenyan expat. However, though most respondents view their jobs as secure (66% happy vs. 59% globally), only 56% feel paid fairly (vs. 62% globally).

Monetary concerns are generally a big issue, with London coming second to last in the Personal Finance Index (49th). Only Vancouver (50th) does worse. Seven out of ten expatriates in London (70%) consider the cost of living too high, twice the global average (35%), and 38% say their disposable income is not enough for a comfortable life (vs. 28% globally).

The financial aspect also affects London's results in the Housing Subcategory (39th) of the Expat Essentials Index (27th): 80% consider housing in London to be unaffordable (vs. 43% globally). However, the city does well for Digital Life (15th) and Admin Topics (17th). For example, 80% are satisfied with the availability of government services online (vs. 61% globally), and 64% consider it easy to deal with the local authorities (vs. 40% globally).

In the Ease of Settling In Index (32nd), London gets a slightly belowaverage result. On the one hand, it is not too hard for expatriates to get used to the local culture (21st). On the other hand, 30% are unhappy with their social life (vs. 26% globally). Lastly, London also gets sub-par results for many factors in the Quality of Life Index (35th). Those in the Leisure Options Subcategory (17th) are among the exceptions. However, 16% rate their personal safety negatively (vs. 9% globally), 34% describe public transportation as too expensive (vs. 15% globally), and 35% are unhappy with the air quality (vs. 19% globally).

USA

Expatriates Love the Work Culture but Struggle with the Healthcare System in Both NYC and Miami

Miami: Welcoming but Hard to Get Around

Miami ranks 12th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022 and performs best in the Ease of Settling In Index (10th). Expatriates rank the city sixth in the Culture & Welcome Subcategory, where 89% find it easy to get used to the local culture (vs. 62% globally). Only Mexico City (1st)

performs better for this factor. The city also performs well in the Expat Essentials Index (12th). Expatriates report that it is easy to get high-speed internet access at home (4th), pay without cash (6th), and open a local bank account (5th).

The city ranks midfield in the Working Abroad Index (19th), performing best in the Career Prospects (5th) and Work Culture & Satisfaction (7th) Subcategories. Expatriates are particularly happy with their personal career opportunities (75% vs. 58% globally) and feel that the local business culture encourages creativity/thinking outside of the box (75% vs. 51% globally). However, about one in four (24%) are unhappy with their working hours (vs. 17% globally).

Lastly, Miami does not do well in the Personal Finance (37th) and Quality of Life (38th) Indices. The city lands in the bottom 10 of the Travel & Transit Subcategory (43rd). In fact, Miami ranks last worldwide for the availability of public transportation (50th) - 57% of expatriates are dissatisfied with this factor, more than three times the global average (17%). The Health & Well-Being Subcategory (49th) is another major lowlight for Miami; only Dublin (50th) performs worse.

New York City: Expensive with Great Work Opportunities

With New York City coming in 16th place overall, the Working Abroad Index (3rd) is a major highlight for expatriates. They rank the city first worldwide in both the Career Prospects and Work Culture & Satisfaction Subcategories. About four in five expatriates (79%) are happy with the local job market (vs. 47% globally), and 84% are satisfied with their personal career opportunities (vs. 58% globally).

New York City also ranks well in both the Ease of Settling In (16th) and the Expat Essentials (15th) Indices. The Digital Life Subcategory (7th) is another positive point for expatriates: for example, 87% are happy with the ease of getting high-speed internet access at home (vs. 79% globally). On the downside, expatriates encounter difficulties in the Personal Finance Index (42nd). In fact, 58% of expatriates in New York City are unhappy with the cost of living, compared to only 35% globally.

In the Quality of Life Index (36th), the city receives mixed results. Like Miami (49th), New York City (48th) does not please expatriates in the Health & Well-Being Subcategory. Over one in four (26%) say that it is difficult to access all the kinds of healthcare services that they need (vs. 17% globally). Another 15% are concerned about their personal safety (vs. 9% globally). However, while Miami ranks last (50th) for the availability of public transportation, New York City performs much better (31st). Additionally, New York City satisfies expatriates with great culinary & dining options (6th) and its culture & nightlife (8th).

INTERNATIONS

The information for this article has kindly been supplied by InterNations
www.internations.org